

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 MCT-02 SY-05 HA-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00
INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-01 ICA-11 SP-02 /051 W
-----009867 301934Z /64

R 292130Z AUG 78
FM AMEMZESSY SAN SALVADOR
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9416
INFO AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA
AMEMBASSY MANAGUA
AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE
AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA
USCINCSO QUARRY HEPUGHTS, CZ

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E.O. 11652: NA
TAGS: PINT, PINS, PINR, SHUM, ASEC, ES
SUBJ: MONEDERO KIDNAPPING: GOES PROHIBITS FURTHER DISSEMINATION
OF MANIFESTOS AS CONDITION FOR RELEASE OF KIDNAP VICTIMS

REF SAN SALVADOR 4416

1. ON NIGHT OF AUGUST 24, MANUEL ARMANDO MONEDERO, SON OF
KIDNAP VICTIM ARMANDO MONEDERO, TURNED OVER TO THE SPECIAL
COMMITTEE REQUESTED BY LEFTIST REVOLUTIONARY ARMY OF THE
PEOPLE (ERP) 100,000 COLONES (U.S. \$40,000) TO BE DISTRIBUTED
TO RELATIVES OF
POLITICAL PRISONERS (SEE REFTEL). THE COMMITTEE IS COMPOSED
OF: RICARDO J. LOPEZ, PRESIDENT OF THE SALVADORAN RED CROSS;
ARCHBISHOP OSCAR A. ROMERO; MONS. BENJAMIN BARRERA Y REYES,
BISHOP OF SANTA ANA; DR. JOSE NAPOLEON GONZALEZ AND DR.
FERNANDO AUGUSTO MENDEZ OF THE SALVADORAN COMMISSION OF
HUMAN RIGHTS. THE MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE ISSUED A
COMMUNIQUE ON AUG 25, SAYING THAT A SPECIAL BANK
ACCOUNT HAD BEEN SET UP UNDER THEIR CONTROL TO DISTRIBUTE
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THE FUNDS AND ASKED THE ERP TO SET MONEDERO FREE.

2. MONEDERO FAMILY APPARENTLY ATTEMPTED TO COMPLY
WITH SECOND SET OF DEMANDS THAT ADS CONTAINING ERP
MANIFESTOS BE PLACED IN THE DAILY NEWSPAPERS AND THAT
ERP PROCLAMATIONS BE BROADCAST OVER VARIOUS RADIO AND
TELEVISION STATIONS. HOWEVER, ON AUGUST 24, THE GOES

IN A COMMUNIQUE ISSUED THROUGH THE SECRETARIAT OF

INFORMATION OF THE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENCY, PROHIBITED THE FURTHER USE OF MEDIA FACILITIES (INCLUDING PRESS, RADIO AND TELEVISION) TO DISSEMINATE "SUBVERSIVE" MANIFESTOS OR PROCLAMATIONS AS A CONDITION FOR SECURING

RELEASE OF KIDNAP VICTIMS. CITING ARTICLE 158 OF THE CONSTITUTION ("PROPOAGANDA ADVOCATING ANARCHISTIC OR ANTI-DEMOCRATIC DOCTRINES IS PROHIBITED") AND THE LAW OF DEFENSE AND GUARANTEE OF PUBLIC ORDER AS THE BASIS FOR ITS ACTIONS, THE COMMUNIQUE ALSO SOUGHT TO REASSURE THE PEOPLE OF EL SALVADOR THAT "FREE EXPRESSION OF THOUGHT IN STRICT COMPLIANCE WITH THE CONSTITUTION AND LAWS OF THE REPUBLIC WILL CONTINUE TO BE GUARANTEED."

3. RADIO YSU IN EARLY AFTERNOON OF AUGUST 28 TRANSMITTED A NEW MESSAGE FROM KIDNAP VICTIM MONEDERO IN WHICH HE SAID THAT HE WAS IN GOOD HEALTH. BROADCAST ALSO STATED THAT ERP INSISTED THAT AS A CONDITION FOR MONEDERO'S RELEASE, LOCAL PRESS MUST PUBLISH ITS MESSAGES.

4. ON AUGUST 29, MORNING NEWSPAPERS PUBLISHED LETTER (DATED AUGUST 28) FROM MONEDERO IN WHICH HE STATED THAT HE WAS IN GOOD HEALTH AND HOPED TO BE BACK LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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WITH HIS FAMILY "SOON". PAPERS ALSO PUBLISHED A PICTURE OF MONEDERO HOLDING COPIES OF AUGUST 28 EDITIONS OF MORNING NEWSPAPERS. PAPERS STATED THAT ERP COMMUNIQUE SENT TO THEM ALSO INSISTED ON VARIOUS ERP MANIFESTOS BEING PUBLISHED IN LOCAL PRESS AS A CONDITON FOR MONEDERO'S RELEASE.

5. COMMENT. MONEDERO HAS BEEN MAJOR OF SANTA ANA ON TWO SEPARATE ELECTIONS (TWO YEARS EACH ELECTION) IN EARLY 1970'S AND GENERAL IMPRESSION IS THAT FRAUD INVOLVED IN BOTH ELECTIONS. MONEDERO CLOSE FRIEND OF FORMER PRESIDENT MOLINA AND DOES HAVE POLITICAL ENEMIES IN SANTA ANA. PUBLISHED DEMANDS OF ERP DO NOT INCLUDE REPORTS OF SEPARATE RANSOM WHICH MAY BE ANOTHER 2 MILLION COLONES (U.S. \$800,000). LUBENSKY

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: KIDNAPPING, EXTORTION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 29 aug 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978SANS04542
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780354-0735
Format: TEL
From: SAN SALVADOR
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780813/aaaaakhm.tel
Line Count: 110
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 61d8f759-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
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Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 SAN SALVADOR 4416
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
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TAGS: PINT, PINS, PINR, SHUM, ASEC, ES
To: STATE GUATEMALA
Type: TE
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Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
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